

such that if the level obtained in (b) differs from that obtained in the absence of test compound, a compound that affects the interaction of the TACI protein and the TACI-L protein is identified.

16. (new) The method of claim 15 wherein at least one of the TACI protein and the TACI-L protein is labeled with a detectable moiety.
17. (new) The method of claim 15 wherein both the TACI protein and the TACI-L protein are soluble.
18. (new) The method of claim 17 wherein both the soluble TACI protein and the soluble TACI-L protein are labeled with a detectable moiety.
19. (new) The method of claim 15 wherein the test compound is an antibody.
20. (new) The method of claim 19 wherein the antibody is a humanized antibody.
21. (new) The method of claim 15 wherein the test compound is added to the composition after addition of the TACI-L protein.
Sub B5
22. (new) The method of claim 15 wherein step (b) comprises determining a dissociation constant of the interaction of TACI with TACI-L.
23. (new) The method of claim 15 wherein step (b) comprises assessing activation of TACI in a cell.
24. (new) The method of claim 23 wherein assessing activation of TACI in a cell is measured by calcium influx.
25. (new) The method of claim 15 wherein the TACI-L is soluble extracellular TACI-L.
Sub B6
26. (new) The method of claim 26 wherein the soluble extracellular TACI-L comprises a leucine zipper domain.
27. (new) The method of claim 15 wherein the TACI protein is soluble extracellular TACI.